

The Risen Christ and the Eucharist



Dear Friends in Christ,

"He was made known to them in the breaking of bread" (Lk 24:35).

This familiar line from today's Gospel highlights the connection between the Resurrection and the Eucharist. The risen Lord, whom the disciples did not recognize on the road, becomes known to them at table -- "in the breaking of the bread." Although the supper in that scene was just a regular meal, the phrase has come to refer to the Eucharist. We indeed encounter the risen Lord in the Eucharist. But...before we consider that specifically, let's connect this back to Baptism, the first Paschal Sacrament.

Baptism is the gateway to all the other sacraments. In that sense it looks ahead to the Eucharist. The Eucharist, in turn, is ordered toward the nourishment of our Baptism. We grow in our identity as children of God when we are fed by our heavenly Father. The life of His Son within us grows stronger when nourished by that same Son's Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

Baptism also makes us members of the Church. It incorporates us into Christ's Body. The Eucharist in turn nourishes and enhances this incorporation. We are one body in Christ because we are all nourished by the one Body of Christ. Our reception of Holy Communion builds up the entire Body of Christ.

All the more reason for us to continue praying that the current restrictions be lifted - or at least eased! - so that the faithful can again have Holy Communion; so that the Father can again nourish His children and Christ's Body can again grow in strength.

Updates...

- **Bishop Burbidge's Latest Message.** Please make note of Bishop Burbidge's latest [video](#) post on the pandemic and the hopes of opening up the sacramental economy.
- **Pop & Go-Drive Thru Food Drive.** *Thank you* to the many volunteers who assisted yesterday in this great effort for the needy in our area. As you know, the effects of the restrictions on our economy are serious and many people find themselves in need. The response to our food drive was overwhelming and I cannot thank the volunteers enough for their initiative and generosity. *Pictures below.*
- **Rectory Ramblings.** *Can the souls in purgatory pray for us? What's the best way to go to confession?* These questions and more answered cheerfully Monday night at 8pm!
- **Pandemic Poetry.** We all deal with difficulties in different ways. A friend of mine turns to writing poetry and she recently sent me these lines about the sadness of public Mass suspended.

Lonely Throne

Throne lonely, empty pew,
throne shining on the few.
Limits on the crowd,
not so loud, there is no crowd,
just the ten. When
no longer in warm weave of
congregation, but in isolation
stretched with holes and space,
let your tatters be mercifully tatted
into pieces of His spiritual lace.

Through the intercession of our Lady and Saint James, may the Lord bless and keep you.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Scalia







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